

Message Text

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73

ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 EB-11 MC-02 TRSE-00 AID-20

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 OMB-01 COME-00

ACDA-19 GAC-01 /162 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

INFO AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR MAAS UG FR

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 1030, KAMPALA 1115, STATE 055366 (NOTAL)

SUBJ: REPORTED FRENCH ARMS SALES TO UGANDA

1. MARCH 28 NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE DATED LINED PARIS STATES,
IN PART, THAT QTE GOVERNMENT SOURCES HERE DENIED MARCH 27
THAT FRANCE WAS SELLING ARMORED TROOP CARRIERS TO UGANDA
BUT ACKNOWLEDGED THAT FRANCE WOULD FURNISH THAT COUNTRY
SPARE PARTS FOR ITS FRENCH- BUILT MILITARY PLANES...

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CONFIRMATION OF SPARE PARTS DEAL CAME FROM FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTRY, WHOSE SPOKESMAN INDICATED IT CONCERNED ONLY THE EIGHT FOUGA- MAGISTER TRAINING AND GROUND- SUPPORT PLANES OF UGANDAN AIR FORCE, WHICH UGANDA HAD BOUGHT SECOND- HAND FROM ISRAEL UNQTE. UNDER FRENCH- UGANDAN AGREEMENT, FRENCH PERSONNEL REPORTEDLY WILL TAKE OVER SERVICING AND SUPPLYING OF PARTS FROM DEPARTED ISRAELIS. IN DENYING SALE OF TROOP CARRIERS, FRENCH DEFENSE MINISTRY SOURCE REPORTEDLY STATED THAT UGANDA HAD ACQUIRED BRITISH- TYPE SALADIN AND SARAZIN MILITARY VEHICLES, BUT IT DID NOT SPECIFY WHAT COUNTRY HAD SOLD THE VEHICLES TO GOU. (FYI: TO BEST DEPT' S KNOWLEDGE, THIS REFERS TO BRITISH DEAL NEGOTIATED MORE THAN YEAR AGO. END FYI)

2. MARCH 28 FBIS ITEM FROM RADIO UGANDA CITES PRESIDENT AMIN AS DISMISSING AS COMPLETELY UNTRUE REPORTS OF PURCHASE

OF ARMORED CARRIERS FROM FRANCE. AMIN ALSO REPORTEDLY SAID THAT ARMS STORY ORIGINATED IN DAR AND THAT TANZANIA HAD NO RIGHT TO STOP UGANDA BUYING WHATEVER IT WANTED.

3. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFO EMBASSY CAN SHED ON ABOVE REPORTS. ROGERS

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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To: DAR ES SALAAM
KAMPALA
KHARTOUM
KIGALI
KINSHASA
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MOGADISHU

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